

# DXPO 86

OCTOBER 11 - 12, 1986

Falls Church (VA) Best Western Inn

DXPO-86, sponsored by the National Capitol DX Association promises to be one of the World's greatest DX events of the year. If you attended one of the past DXPO's sponsored by NCDXA, YOU will receive a timely mailing with full details. If you have moved since the last DXPO or have never attended a DXPO, please send your name, call and mailing address to:

Stuart Meyer, W2GHK/Forever  
2417 Newton Street  
Vienna, Virginia 22180  
(703) 281 3806

Once again, the National Capitol DX Association is going "all out" to put on a great show for YOU. If you have attended a previous DXPO, you know what we mean. If you have not attended a previous DXPO, try it, we think that you will enjoy total immersion in DX with something for everyone.

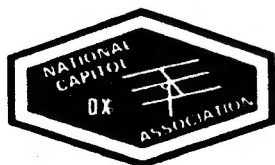
Program starts at 1:00 PM Saturday with an attitude adjustment party at 5:30 PM. Banquet starts at 7:00 PM followed by a special presentation by the Mighty NCDXA Artplayers entitled "The Story of a DXer". NCDXA Hospitality Suite opens one minute after the close of the banquet.

Sunday morning at 9:00, the phase II of DXPO starts and concludes about 1:00 PM.

Our broad program includes; DXAC & DXCC forum with Don Search, W3AZD from ARRL Headquarters and Roanoke Division Vice Director John Kanode, N4MM. Frank Donovan, W3LPL promises an audio-visual presentation on his new set-up explaining what he did and why he did what he did. Other presentations will tell how to get started in DXing with dipoles and barefoot stations and how to show up some of the big guns by developing street smarts. We will also talk about the various antennas that can be used on all bands including the HF delta loops.

The 1986 Clipperton FOØXX slide show is a must as well as the Barry Goldwater BV DXpedition.

Be sure to send for the full details and plan your life to attend the best NCDXA DXPO ever.



SPONSORED BY THE NATIONAL CAPITOL DX ASSOCIATION

# The PVRC Newsletter

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**NEXT MEETING: Monday, Oct. 13, 7:30 p.m.**

**QTH:** Paint Branch High School  
Silver Spring, MD  
(directions at p.4)

**AGENDA:** New Member Applications  
awards + CQ (SSB) & SS (CW)

**Oct. 25-26: CQ Worldwide SSB; discussion Monday Oct. 27 8 p.m. 147.00**

**Nov. 1-2 ARRL Sweepstakes CW**

**PVRC Meeting Schedule:** Monday, November 10 at Temple Hills, MD; Tuesday, December 9, annual Christmas Dinner at Fort Meyer Officer's Club, Arlington.

Contest season is upon us. Enclosed are forms for the CQ Worldwide DX and ARRL sweepstakes contests. Also within is a brief recap of PVRC members' activity in the CQ WW SSB and SS CW contests last year. The low sunspot count did not prevent PVRC members from turning in excellent performances. Please make a point to be on this year, and either bring your logs to the PVRC meeting or mail direct, but let us know your score!

**Digital Voice Announcement System:** Several issues back we reprinted information about the "digital voice keyer" from K1LH. There are already a dozen in operation by Frankford Radio Club members! They are available and work very well according to all reports from up North. The cost is \$349., but there is a significant club discount. I have enough orders now to obtain the \$314. price, and a couple more would lower that to \$297. If interested, call me this weekend or see me at the meeting, as I will be sending in the order within the next ten days. Although still not inexpensive, testers like W3BGN and K3WW swear that it is well worth the price, and this is a chance to get it cheaper than buying only a single one.

**The repeater** will be available for all multi-ops and casual operators during the contest, so please use it! In addition to the 48-hour and after contest chatter, we'll have a club meeting on the repeater on Monday Oct. 27 at 8 p.m., to discuss the contest, collect scores, trade anecdotes, etc.

**Our questionnaire** is again reproduced -- please fill it in and bring to the October meeting, or mail, so we have some idea of activity and interests. If you already have mailed it in or given it to me, thanks!

**PVRC's annual Christmas dinner** will be held on Tuesday, December 9 at the Officer's Club at Fort Meyer, Virginia. This is as close to the center of PVRC territory as exists, so make plans to attend! Reservation form and more information will be in next month's newsletter.

# PVRC-2

The Fowlfest was a great success. A big round of applause is due Mike KC8C and Dave KM3T. It was good to see all of you, and also many of the NCDXA members. Special guests included Mr. Chen Chang-I, who is in charge all amateur regulation and licensing in for BV. We were happy to show him a "real" ham station, extend an opportunity to meet some enthusiastic U.S. amateurs, and discuss contesting and DXing from Taiwan.

Also in attendance was Dave Novoa, KP4AM, whom we all work in almost every contest! Rana, WB4NFO, was present and discussed his plans to activate 9N1NFO in a serious effort from Nepal for CQ WW SSB. And Jim, N3JT, was discussing his CQ WW SSB DXpedition to San Andres, where his call will be N3JT/HK0 on 160-10 meters. (Another "DXpedition" to watch out for in the contest: K4YT/DU9 from the QTH of DU9RG.)

Other PVRC members in attendance included Don, W3AZD and John, N4MM, with all the latest ARRL news. And more: PVRCers W3UJ, KM3T, KC3EK, N3US, W6AXX, K6ETM, K3ZJ, W2GHK, W3AZ, W3LPL, K3HPG, KC8C, N8II, K3NA, & K3TM. Non-PVRCers included W9LT, W4PBC, K1DQV, KZ3H, KA3R, KE9A, K3HVG, K6IR, WB3ANE, N3TO, & KN3T.

The Officers were unanimously re-elected for the 1986-'87 contest year. I am publishing Andy's treasurer's report so that everyone can see exactly where the dues go. I hope all of you will continue to support the PVRC during the next year, as there is nothing we want to cut down on -- we're already operating a barebones operation, yet we are still negative on the cash flow and this can only continue for a limited period.

## TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 01 OCT 85 to 01 OCT 86

### INCOME

DUES	52 MEMBERS & 3 OUT AREA Members	\$545.00
CHRISTMAS PARTY	37 ATTENDEES	\$666.00
	TOTAL INCOME.....	\$1,211.00

### EXPENSES

NEWS LETTER		\$783.80
AWARDS	CLOCK AWARD	\$38.24
	CQ for W4BVV MEMORIAL	\$45.00
	CQ for PVRC AWARD	\$90.00
	ARRL for PVRC AWARD	\$30.00
MISC	BANK SERVICE CHARGE	\$12.00
	MEETING PLACE	\$32.00
	TREAS OFFICE	\$16.08
	CHRISTMAS DINNER	\$663.00
	TOTAL EXPENSES.....	\$1,710.12

LOSS FOR 1985-1986		(\$499.12)
85-10-01	Opening Bank Balance	\$1,220.56
86-10-01	Closing Bank Balance	\$721.44

### PVRC-3

NCJ Sprints in September saw the entry of PVRC teams for the first time in several years. Many thanks to cw operators W3YY, K3NA, KE3Q, & K4PQL. Phone ops included W3YY, K3NA, W3HHG, & N3GB. Last minute rig problems kept K3TM off on the phone portion, but he promises to try again in February. Special thanks to Bob W3YY for initiating and coordinating the PVRC teams. If you are interested in participating under the PVRC banner in February, call Bob.

N4RP (ex-W4KXV) says that he expects to be on /C6A for CQ WW CW and the ARRL contests. Dick hopes to be at the October meeting. Many of you weren't around, but Dick ran one of the very first multi-multi operations in the DC area, preceding Ed Bissell, W3AU. Many PVRCers, including K3EST, were first introduced to multi/multi operation at his QTH. Dick will be tied up in Annapolis through about Oct. 15 and is trying to meet PVRCers on 147.00, and also monitors .705/.105. If anyone has a rig that covers 160 meters, preferably that runs on 12 v.d.c., Dick would like to borrow it to get on that band during the contests. His TS520 does not cover 160. Messages for Dick can be passed via Gus, W4JBD, at (301) 263-1923.

#### PVRC in the 1985 CQ Worldwide SSB Contest

World: 1st place multi-single: P44B, by K3EST + N3ED, WA3LRO, & N7ZZ  
2nd place QRPP (5 watts): K3WS (1st place U.S.A.)  
6th place single op./single band 14 MHz. K3RV/4 (2nd place U.S.A.)

U.S.A. Multi-Multi: 2nd W3LPL (+ AI3M, KAI3D, K1RZ, K3DI, KF3P, KM3T, KX3Q & KC8C)

also K3ZZ (+ WA3EKL, N3AOE, & KC3EK)

Single Operator - All Band: 6th W3GRF (KODQ)

7th K3ZO

8th N2FB/3

Also W3UJ, N3RL, N4MM.

Single Operator - 1.8 MHz. W3GG

14 MHz. 2nd K3RV/4

7th K3ZJ/4

Also K4OD

21 MHz. 2nd N8II

#### PVRC in the 1985 ARRL CW Sweepstakes

In order of score: 1.W3LPL; 2.N8II(KC8C); 3.K3ZO; 4.W3GNQ(KF3P); 5.K3ZZ; 6.N3CW; 7.W3YY; 8.K3HPG; 9.K3SA; 10.W3GN; 11.W3AZ; 12.W3UJ; 13.W3FA; 14.W4YE; 15.W3FG; 16.K3TM/3; 17.K4OD; 18.AA4HZ; 19.N3JT; 20.K3KU.

Congratulations, and thanks to all participants. Will your call be listed for 1986?

PVRC-4

**Remember DXPO-'86** the weekend of October 11-12, featuring, among others, W3LPL and K3ZJ. Call Stu Meyer W2GHK for details, 281-3806.

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HOW TO GET TO THE MEETING ON OCTOBER 13, 1986

If you are coming from the Washington, D.C. beltway:

Counter-Clock-Wise

Off on New Hampshire. North towards White Oak. Right on US 29 at White Oak. Left on Briggs-Chaney Rd. (Montgomery Auto Park on right) (5th traffic light). Right on Old Columbia Pike. Look for Paint Branch High School on right side. About 1/2 mile. Room A115

Clock-Wise

Off on US 29 north (to Columbia). Left on Briggs-Chaney Rd. (Montgomery Auto Park on right). Right on Old Columbia Pike. Look for Paint Branch High School on right side. About 1/2 mile. Room A115.

From Baltimore or points north.

Down US 29 or I 95 or US 1 or BW Parkway to Maryland 198. Right on Md 198 to US 29 crossing. Continue on Md 198 to "Y". Take left side of the "Y". About 1 mile to Paint Branch High School on left side. Room A115.

From Olney and points Northwest

Md 108 to New Hampshire Ave (Md 650). Right on New Hampshire Ave to Md 198. Left on Md 198 to Old Columbia Pike (Sandy Springs Bank on right at corner). Right on Old Columbia Pike. About 1 mile to Paint Branch High School on left side. Room A115

If all else fails help will be available on the repeater 146.40 in 147.00 out

Meeting starts at 7:30 PM. See you all there.

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**1986 - 1987 PVRC Questionnaire.**

Return at meeting or mail to PVRC, 9763 Oleander Avenue, Vienna, VA 22180

I plan (hope) to operate in the following contests this season:

\_\_\_ CQ WW SSB, October 25-26, 1986    \_\_\_ CQ WW CW, November 29-30, 1986  
\_\_\_ SS CW, November 1-2, 1986        \_\_\_ SS SSB, November 15-16, 1986  
\_\_\_ ARRL DX CW, February 21-22, 1987    \_\_\_ ARRL DX SSB, March 7-8, 1987

\_\_\_ I need a station to operate for the following contests:

\_\_\_ I have a station available for a PVRC guest op. these contests:

\_\_\_ I would join in a (multi/multi) (multi/single) effort for the following:

Comments:

Name, call, address, phone :

# Snagging Extra Multipliers Via Grayline Propagation

Dave Pascoe KM3T

One of the most frequently overlooked modes of propagation during the DX contests is grayline propagation. The reasons vary from operator to operator, but usually include:

- . Incorrectly oriented antennas
- . Lack of knowledge of a possible path
- . Lack of faith in one's antenna system
- . Getting on the band at the wrong time
- . Lack of belief that stations will be active.

The purpose of this short article is to provide information on the paths that may be workable during the CQ WW DX Contests. One could obtain information for other dates by using such devices as The Dx Edge or simply by computing sunrise and sunset times for locations thought to have a path between them.

Experience has shown that most contacts are made by using long-path great circle bearings. The frequency bands of interest in this part of the sunspot cycle are generally 1.8 MHz, 3.5 MHz, 7 MHz and occasionally 14 MHz. Most stations are not equipped to take full advantage of the openings on 1.8 MHz and 3.5 MHz, but many are equipped for 7 MHz. Because of the high activity on this band, most of the

juicy multipliers will be found here.

The CQ WW DX CW contest during the last full weekend of November provides the best long-path openings. These usually occur around our local sunset. Any station with a directional antenna on 40m has the potential to get in on these openings because signals are usually strong. The reason for this is that most of the long-path to Asia and the Far East is over salt water. During short-path openings in the morning to those areas we have to work through the polar absorption and much rougher terrain, which tends to weaken signals.

Openings are possible during our sunrise period to various areas but the stateside activity is usually higher at that time. This increased activity sometimes makes it difficult to get through the pileups. There is another side to that coin, however.

Increased activity can tend to attract rare DX stations who may be casually tuning a band. CQs by a well-equipped stateside station can yield interesting contacts. Operating 40m from N3RS, a multi-multi operation in the 1986 ARRL DX CW Contest, I can remember having JA5BJC and YB5ASO answer a series of CQs with the 2 el 40m beam pointed SE. Their signals did not have the polar flutter

usually noticed when working them on the short-path.

A problem that discourages many operators from trying to use the grayline is the low number of DX stations actually capable of putting out a good signal in the required direction. This is a problem that could be countered by making on-the-air skeds with active stations prior to the contest. This is difficult, though, since the bands are crowded during the contests.

There isn't really too much more that a contest operator needs to know in order to use grayline propagation. The biggest problem, at least with single-op entrants, is that one can spend too much time hunting for DX on the long path when another band might be yielding high QSO rates. This is always a tradeoff anyway, though.

The following is a list of countries with known active stations that should be possible to work on 40m/80m during the CQ WW DX Contests in October and November.....

CQ WW DX Phone  
October 25-26, 1986

Sunrise (~1132Z)

A5 Bhutan  
S2 Bangladesh  
VU India  
UL7 Kazakh  
9N Nepal  
KC4 Antarctica  
UM8 Kirghiz

Sunset (~2211Z)

DU Philippines  
HL Korea  
9M6 E. Malaysia  
BV Taiwan  
V85 Brunei  
9M8 E. Malaysia  
VS6 Hong Kong  
YB Indonesia  
BY China

CQ WW DX CW Contest  
November 29-30, 1986

Sunrise (~1209Z)

VU India  
UJ8 Tadzh  
UI8 Uzbek  
4S Sri Lanka  
UA4 EUR USSR  
AP Pakistan

Sunset (~2143Z)

JA Japan  
DU Philippines  
9M6 E. Malaysia

See you in the pileups!





do not write above this line

## ARRL November Sweepstakes

CALL USED..... C.W. ☐ ARRL SECTION (P. 6 QST).....  
PHONE ☐

NOTE: Separate logs must be submitted, with separate summaries, for each mode.

SCORING: \_\_\_\_\_ QSO points X \_\_\_\_\_ sections = \_\_\_\_\_ claimed score

Count 2 points per complete QSO. Cross out sections worked on the list below.

Claimed Score	QSOs	Sections	D. C. Power	Hrs. of Oper.
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CHECK ONE: Single Operator Station ☐ Multioperator Station ☐

If multioperator, show calls of all operators, loggers.....

Club participation? Yes No If yes, print the name of your ARRL

Affiliated Club: **POTOMAC VALLEY RADIO CLUB**

Equipment Description:

Transmitter..... Receiver.....

Antennas.....

Full mailing address (please print):

Name..... Number and street.....

City, state/province, zip.....

"I have observed all competition rules as well as all regulations established for amateur radio in my country. My report is correct and true to the best of my knowledge. I agree to be bound by the decisions of the ARRL Awards Committee."

Date..... Signature..... Call.....

Note your soapbox and other comments. Enclose your photos, as well as your SS logs and check sheets, and mail promptly to: ARRL Communications Department, 225 Main Street, Newington, Connecticut 06111.

### MULTIPLIER CHECK-OFF LIST

(CROSS OFF  
EACH NEW  
SECTION AS  
WORKED.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	VE
Conn	ENY	Del	Ala	Ark	EBay	Ariz	Mich	Ill	Colo	Mar
EMass	NLI	EPa	Ga	La	LA	Ida	Ohio	Ind	Iowa	Que
Me	NNJ	MDC	Ky	Miss	Org	Mont	WVa	Wisc	Kans	Ont
NH	SNJ	WPa	NC	NMex	SBar	Nev			Minn	Man
RI	WNY		NFla	NTex	SCV	Oreg			Mo	Sask
Vt			SC	Okla	SDgo	Utah			Nebr	Alta
WMass			SFla	STex	SF	Wash			NDak	BC
			Tenn		SJV	Wyo			SDak	VE8
			Va		SV	KL7				
			WI		KH6					



# ARRL Sweepstakes

CALL USED.....

ARRL SECTION.....



C.W. ☐

PHONE ☐

PREC	CALL	CK	SEC
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SENT (1 POINT)

RECEIVED (1 POINT)

Separate logs and summary sheets  
required for each mode.

BAND	DATE	TIME ON/OFF	TIME	NR	NR	PREC	STATION WORKED	CK	*SECTION	POINTS
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